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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

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TS authority to

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DOWNGRADE AFGHANISTAN

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TALKING POINTS

-- CHINA AND THE US SHARE A COMMITMENT TO A COMPLETE SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND RESTORATION OF AN INDEPENDENT, NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED AFGHANISTAN.

-- THE US, CHINA AND OTHER NATIONS INCLUDING ISLAMIC AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES MUST TAKE STEPS TO KEEP MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS FOR WITHDRAWAL. WE REALIZE, HOWEVER, THAT OUR COMMON GOAL CANNOT BE ACHIEVED BY POLITICAL MEANS ALONE.

-- THE AFGHAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS CONTINUE TO DESERVE OUR SYMPATHY AND ADMIRATION. WE BELIEVE THAT INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO THE RESISTANCE CAN RAISE SOVIET COSTS BUT RECOGNIZE THAT ASSISTANCE TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS COULD EXPOSE PAKISTAN TO THE RISK OF INCREASED SOVIET RETALIATION.

-- BECAUSE OF PAKISTAN'S VITAL STRATEGIC POSITION, SUPPORT FOR THAT NATION MUST BE A CENTRAL ELEMENT OF OUR POLICY ON AFGHANISTAN.

-- TACTICALLY IT IS IN OUR INTEREST THAT PAKISTAN AND OTHER MODERATE ISLAMIC STATES CONTINUE TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO KEEP PRESSURE ON MOSCOW FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION. WE SEEK CHINA'S VIEWS ON HOW THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED. A STRONG GA RESOLUTION THIS FALL IS IMPORTANT. AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE REFUGEE PROBLEM OR ON THE POLITICAL ISSUE COULD ALSO BE USEFUL.

-- WE ENCOURAGE CHINA TO CONSIDER MORE ASSISTANCE TO THE AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN SINCE THE INCREASING BURDEN OF THE REFUGEES HAS THE POTENTIAL, IF NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED, OF DESTABILIZING PAKISTAN.

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